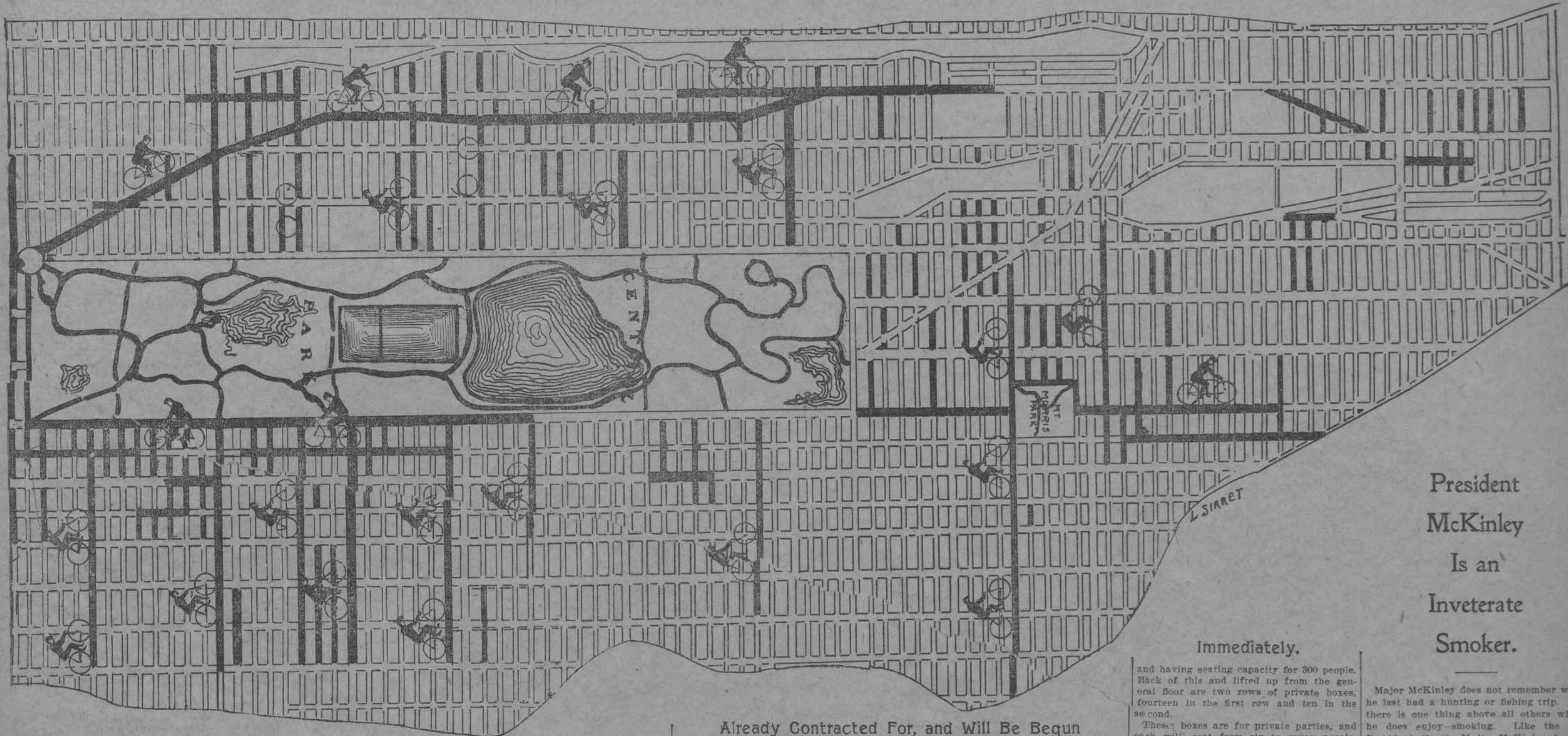


WILL SOON BE THE PRIVILEGE OF EVERY BICYCLIST IN NEW YORK.



Facilities They Need Has Been Realized—152,000 More Yards of Asphalt

Hammerstein's Latest Idea to Amuse Us Next Summer.

HERE is the latest conception of Oscar Hammerstein. It is a magnificent floating pleasure palace for the Summer residents of New York.

A combined roof garden, theatre, dancing hall, cafe and bathing pavilion, capable of leaving the Battery at 6:30 p. m., anchoring among the cool breezes of the lower bay for three hours and returning to the city by midnight, is a novelty which is now proposed to be built for the convenience of those who are compelled to remain in town during the hot weather. Here under one roof the man-about-town, after a busy day in the city, may eat a table d'hôte dinner of the best class and enjoy a concert and a light vaudeville performance while swept by ocean breezes in the neighborhood of the Ronger shoal. Anchored far from the noisy distractions

of Coney Island and Bath Beach, this elaborate pleasure palace will afford unsurpassed facilities for bathing in the cool, green waters of the ocean. The entire structure, which will have four decks, is to be open on all sides, so that the passengers may secure the benefit of the lightest wind that blows. At the same time there are to be staterooms for ladies and a large amount of space is to be given up to berths for men in the "basement," as the enormous craft will probably be used for Saturday-to-Monday excursions down the bay or up the Sound.

Those who have examined the plans of this boat as prepared by Architect David W. King, of No. 111 Fifth Avenue, have expressed surprise that nothing of the kind has been built in New York before. This is one of the few great cities of the world lying directly on the ocean, yet amply protected from the sea.

Eight miles from the Battery the salt breezes of the ocean are to be encountered on the hottest day of Summer. An enormous population take advantage of the sea, as is shown by the growth of Coney Island, Bath Beach, South Beach and other nearby resorts on the Long Island and New Jersey shores, while thousands of people visit every afternoon and evening in Summer, returning to this city to sleep.

The objections to these places are the immense crowds and the noise. These will be entirely done away with according to the novel plan which has been arranged for Mr. Hammerstein.

He has adopted the simple expedient of

putting a combined cafe, theatre and dancing hall on board an immense steel barge. This is to be towed to the coolest places by one or more powerful tugs.

All the while as the floating pleasure palace is being towed down the bay a concert will be going on and a fine table d'hôte dinner will be served on the upper deck. The beautiful shores of the bay will be in sight, ships and steamers will afford a pleasing contrast to the hot, dusty streets of the city, and the quiet and coolness will exceed those to be found on even the finest Summer steamers, as there will be no great engines and boilers on the craft.

The kitchen will be concealed from view forward in the hull of the boat, and there will be a small engine to run the dynamo for the electric lights. From these neither heat nor odor can permeate to any part of the vessel, both being carried off by a funnel in the forward part.

It is said that about the same scale of prices that now prevails in Hammerstein's Olympia will rule on board the boat, where a general admission charge of probably 50 cents will include access to all parts, a free concert and vaudeville show and a trip down the bay. The private boxes in the theatre will be extra, as will also be the reserved seats, while it is probable that at least one dollar will be charged for the table d'hôte dinner.

Drinks will be served all over the boat. Extra prices will be charged for the bathing facilities of the craft, which include the use of life rafts lowered alongside when lying at anchor, dressing rooms in the hull

Already Contracted For, and Will Be Begun

and bathing suits. There will also be a scale of prices for the staterooms and berths.

All of these prices, while moderate, will yet be of such a nature as to exclude the noisy crowd that has almost ruined the western end of Coney Island. Upon the other hand, the entertainments on this boat will, it is said, excel in excellence the best of those given at Manhattan Beach, and that the restaurant accommodations are to be better than those to be found anywhere on Coney Island. Mr. Hammerstein proposes to make this new departure first-class in every respect.

The plans which Architect King has drawn up for this novel enterprise show that no effort has been spared to make it attractive to the public. The huge craft is to be built entirely of the best of steel and the hull is to have water-tight compartments and a double bottom, so that the boat will be fireproof and non-sinkable.

She will be 200 feet in length from bow to stern, or as long as a New York City block, with the width of the street added. On the water line the craft will have a length of 240 feet and a beam of 60 feet. From the keel to the top of the roof will be 52 feet and the draught will be about 5 feet, so that the floating pleasure palace can pass over shoals and go close in to a shelving shore.

There will be four decks. The first of these is to be a sort of basement partly above and partly below the water line, with head room of 5 feet. Forward in the extreme bow will be the quarters for the caretakers and crew.

Aft of that come the kitchens, and behind them, under the stage, are dressing rooms for the actors, who will have access to the main deck by a stairway of their own. Further aft on the lower deck is to be an enormous barroom and cafe, and behind that there will be berths and thirty-two staterooms for men.

Each of these staterooms will be lighted and ventilated like that of a steamer. The toilet appurtenances in this part of the boat are to be elaborate and handsome. In this lower deck, also, there are to be places for the storage of provisions and wines, with refrigerators, ice houses, a barber shop and a boot blacking room, as well as a room for the dynamo and a private dining room for the crew.

The stage where the vaudeville show is to be given will rest on the main deck of the boat in about the midship section. Forward in the extreme bow of the main deck is to be a general lounge where people can sit in the open air and enjoy the scenery. The stage comes back of that, but forward of the stage are certain rooms for the use of the captain and the pilot and crew, with dumbwaiters from the kitchen, which run clear up to the extreme top deck.

The stage is to have a proscenium opening of twenty-eight feet, and a depth of thirty feet. The wings are to be fourteen feet, with stairways on either side going down to the dressing rooms below. The stage is to be elaborately lighted by electricity.

In front of the stage small round tables are situated in a space forty-four feet in diameter, giving 1,520 square feet of room

Immediately.

and having seating capacity for 300 people. Back of this and lifted up from the general floor are two rows of private boxes, fourteen in the first row and ten in the second.

These boxes are for private parties, and each will seat from six to seven people. Back of these boxes are rows of seats with accommodation for 700 people. On the main deck back of the theatre are the ladies' parlors and eighteen staterooms for ladies. There is also to be a general saloon at this place forty feet wide and fifty feet long, to be used as a ladies' parlor. A covered promenade thirteen feet wide runs all the way around this deck.

On the deck above there will be a clean sweep for the ocean breezes which the pleasure seekers will go in search of. Here is to be the main dining room and cafe.

From the theatre you can walk right upstairs into the dining room, and there you can hear the music from below, if, indeed, you cannot see the performance, as you eat your dinner. At the back on each side are stairs going down.

On the top deck is a great unbroken space for dancing, running from bow to stern. This will be 80 by 250 feet in size, without columns, and affording a superficial area of 20,000 square feet. On this immense floor 5,000 people can find accommodation. It has not yet been decided whether or not to cut a space through this deck, looking down on the theatre. There is to be a place on this deck for an orchestra and many cozy corners for flirtations.

The decorations for the boat are to be of the handsomest description. There will be carpets, cushions, palms and other plants and a fountain has even been suggested. The top deck is to be covered with an elaborate and handsome awning. Flags or all nations will flutter from innumerable poles, long streamers will get the wave as the boat progresses, and the colors in which she is to be painted will be gorgeous.

President
McKinley
Is an
Inveterate
Smoker.

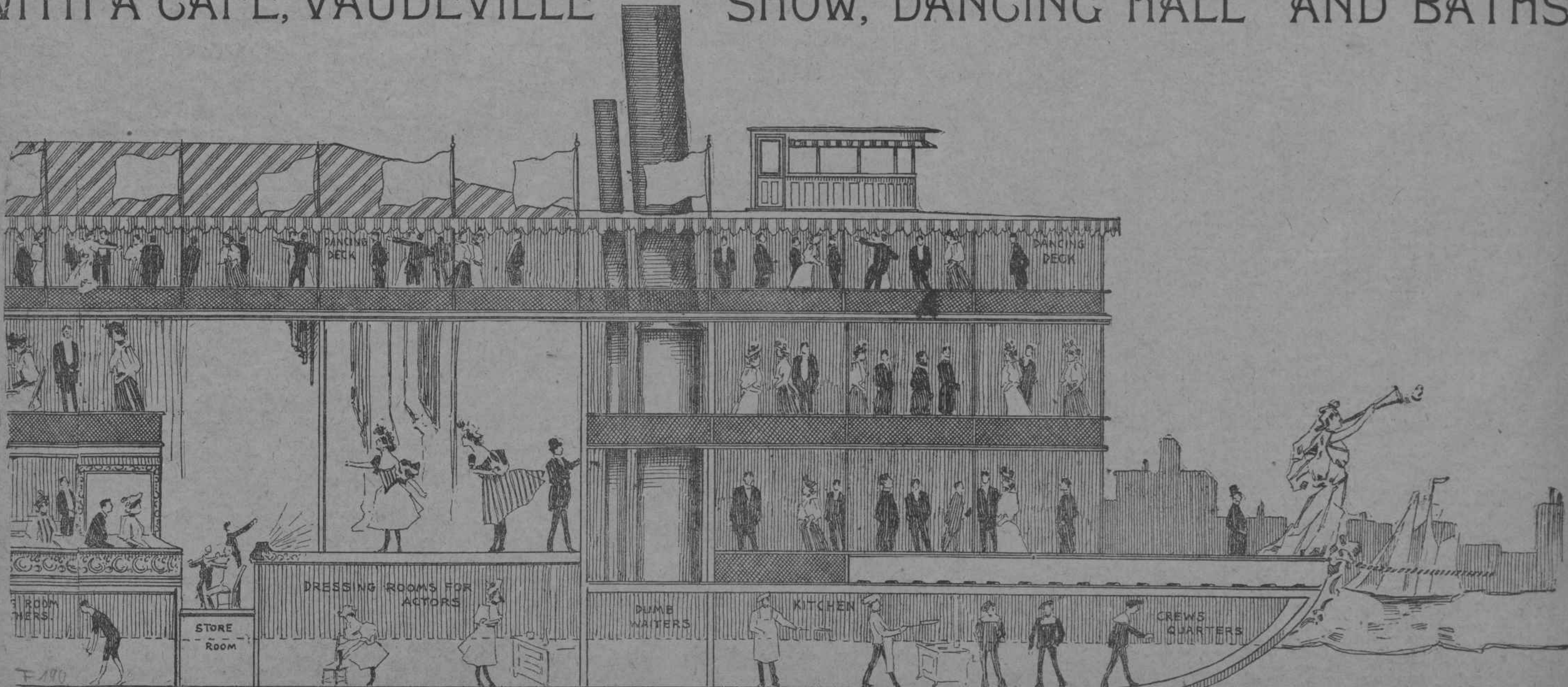
Major McKinley does not remember when he last had a hunting or fishing trip. But there is one thing above all others which he does enjoy—smoking. Like the late President Grant, Major McKinley is seldom seen without a cigar—sometimes a long one. He is an inveterate smoker, and indulges his habit at every opportunity. During his illness he was compelled to forego this pleasure, and for over a week, it is understood, he has not lighted a weed. He always has cigars about the house—in every room, in fact. When a meal is finished—breakfast, dinner or supper—he always calls for his cigars, and ere he arises from the table he has lighted at least two. Mrs. McKinley is not apparently averse to smoke, because her husband goes all over the house, puffing away at his inseparable cigar, and thinking and thinking.

Whether reading, writing or discussing affairs of State or of social import his cigar is always with him. Of the many hundreds of persons who have visited the McKinley residence before and since the election and have held conferences with the President-elect, the box of cigars has been an indicator to the newspaper men.

Some of his intimate acquaintances can well remember when President McKinley had "sworn off" on smoking, but resumed the habit a short time afterward. Visitors at the White House during Major McKinley's term of office can be sure of being asked by the President to have a cigar.

Perhaps in lieu of the thrilling stories the papers have to tell of the large catches of trout and bagging of ducks which have been related to an interested public concerning President Cleveland, the press will have something to say about how many cigars President McKinley has smoked during the day, or the "long drives and walks" he has taken.

WITH A CAFE, VAUDEVILLE SHOW, DANCING MALL AND BATHS.



AWAY SEASIDE RESORT, AND ALL THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE EVERY DAY WITHIN GUNSHOT OF THE BATTERY.